

Message Text

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ACTION SY-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 SCCT-02 EUR-25 OPR-02 A-01 M-02

CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 USSS-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

SS-20 NSC-07 PRS-01 AID-20 USIA-15 CU-05 AGR-20 EB-11

COME-00 DRC-01 /166 W

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R 040910Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4147

C O N F I D E N T I A L DACCA 3946

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN, PINT, PINS, BG

SUBJ: APPARENT TERRORIST ACTION IN DACCA

REF: DACCA 3879

1. IN CONVERSATION ON ANOTHER SUBJECT WITH INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE (IGP) ON SEPTEMBER 2, EMBOFFS WERE ASSURED THAT INCIDENT INVOLVING DUTCH SECOND SECRETARY REPORTED REFTEL WAS WHOLLY CRIMINAL IN CHARACTER AND HAD NO POLITICAL OVERTONES. IGP WENT ON TO SAY THAT MISCREANTS RESPONSIBLE HAD BEEN ARRESTED AND MOST OF GOODS STOLEN, INCLUDING NETHERLANDS EMBASSY AUTOMOBILE, HAVE BEEN RECOVERED. IGP ADDED THAT MISCREANTS HAD DESCRIBED SELVES AS POLITICALLY-MOTIVATED IN ORDER TO CAST BEST LIGHT ON THEIR CRIMINAL ACTION. HE ASSURED EMBOFFS THAT THERE NO POLITICAL OVERTONES AT ALL.

2. COMMENT: THIS SAME VERSION WAS GIVEN EMBOFF BY FOREIGN SECRETARY AT DINNER OVER WEEKEND, SUGGESTING THERE IS A CONCENTRATED EFFORT BY BDG TO ASSURE MEMBERS OF THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS IN DACCA THAT THEY ARE NOT FOCUS OF POLITICAL TERRORISM. WE WILL NOT ABANDON OUR INCREASED PRECAUTIONS, HOWEVER, BECAUSE WE ARE AWARE OF GROWING ALIENATION ON PART OF YOUTHFUL BENGALLEES WHICH CAN IMPEL THEM TOWARD EITHER CRIMINAL ACTION OR POLITICAL

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TERRORISM, OR A COMBINATION OF BOTH. WITH INFLATION UNCHECKED,

MANY UNIVERSITY STUDENTS ARE VERY HARD-PRESSED FINANCIALLY,
AND THEIR PARENTS ARE UNABLE TO OFFER ADDITIONAL SUPPORT. CRIME
CAN BE SEEN AS A WAY TO PAY BILLS AND AT THE SAME TIME EMBARRASS
GOVERNMENT WHICH IS PERCEIVED AS CAUSE OF HARDSHIP.

3. WE CONCLUDE POLICE ARE NEVERTHELESS TREATING LAW AND ORDER
SITUATION SOMEWHAT MORE THAN NORMALLY SERIOUSLY. POLICE PATROLS
REMAIN IN EVIDENCE AT APPROACHES TO GULSHAN, A FACT WHICH
SUGGESTS THAT POLICE SEE CONTINUING PROBLEM, WHATEVER ITS CAUSE
MAY BE.
BOSTER

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Message Attributes

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